



### **Federal Regulatory, State Inspection, Nursery Survey and Other Finds**

The National Agricultural Pest Information System (NAPIS) currently reports that Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia have reported survey results through the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program. No positive survey samples have been reported in NAPIS from these states. California, Maine and Oregon are performing surveys not under the CAPS program and have entered survey data into NAPIS. Oregon reported 6 positive samples in NAPIS.

There have been a total of 19 positive nursery finds and 1 non-plant detection as a result to a follow-up survey, as of August 29. The states with positive finds/detections are California, Oregon, Washington, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania.

### **Forest Detection Survey**

The purpose of the survey is the early detection of *P. ramorum* in forest vegetation before infection centers become fully established and more difficult to eradicate. This risk-based survey is voluntary and administered by the USDA Forest Service (USFS), Forest Health Protection-Forest Health Monitoring Program. State forestry agencies and supporting laboratories accomplish the survey with funding, training and logistical assistance from USFS. Information on the SOD National Detection Survey can be accessed through the USFS webpage at <http://fhm.fs.fed.us/sp/sod/sod.shtm>. As it is considered more sensitive and efficient, this year's survey is focused on water course (stream) baiting for *P. ramorum* with forest vegetation survey conducted if necessary.

As of August 24, the USFS reported 151 streams baited in 28 states with 772 samples collected. There have been 35 positives found during the water baiting survey, 1 in Washington; 1 in Mississippi; and 33 in California.

### **Acting Positions**

The program would like to thank Terrance Wells for filling in as Acting Eastern Regional Program Manager for *P. ramorum* for 30 days. Terrance is a PPQ Officer in Tennessee. Patsy Waszak is acting from August 20 – September 14. Patsy is a Supervisory Plant Health Safeguarding Specialist stationed in North Carolina.

### **APHIS proposes new “Select Agent”**

Following information can be found in the September 2007, California Oak Mortality Task Force newsletter at <http://nature.berkeley.edu/comtf/>

USDA APHIS published a proposed rule August 28, 2007 to update the list of select agents, which includes the addition of *Phytophthora kernoviae*. Select agents are defined as pathogens or biological toxins which have been declared by the US Department of Health and Human Services or by the USDA to have the "potential to pose a severe threat to public health and safety." Administered by the Centers for Disease Control, the Select Agent Program regulates the laboratories which may possess, use, or transfer select agents within the US. If approved, this will be the first US regulation for *P. kernoviae*.

For more information on the proposed rule or to comment on it, go to “Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002; Biennial Review and Republication of the Select Agent and Toxin List” at <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main> . The comment period ends October 29, 2007.